ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A base station receives a reverse link signal from a given field unit that includes a common code (i.e., shared by other field units) and a unique orthogonal code (i.e., distinguishing the given field unit from other field units). The reverse link signal travels in a multi-path environment along a primary path and at least one secondary path. The base station makes a diversity decision based on the unique orthogonal code seen at two different phases. The base station determines a gross timing offset to align the common code of the given field unit with the common code from other field units using unique orthogonal codes. The given field unit makes a corresponding coarse adjustment of the phase of its common code.